

Peer Review: The Book of Jubilees - The Torah Calendar

By Timothy Schwab and Anna Zamoranos

Overview

"The Book of Jubilees: The Torah Calendar" is an in-depth publishing of the ancient text of Jubilees that provides much more than translation or commentary-it presents a robust theological, historical, and textual defense of Jubilees as inspired scripture. The work is structured around two primary aims: (1) to affirm the integrity and credibility of the Book of Jubilees through a scriptural "Torah Test" and early source alignment, and (2) to explore the 364-day solar calendar system embedded within the book.

Purpose and Scope

This publication is not a speculative calendar reconstruction but rather a defense of Jubilees as a restored, inspired, and authentic book of scripture as preserved by the sons of Zadok. It includes detailed geographical and historical appendices, but its strength lies in the theological grounding and systematic dismantling of modern scholarly objections.

Strengths

- 1. Thorough Scriptural Validation:** The introduction executes a full Torah Test of the Book of Jubilees with rigor. The authors provide dozens of instances where Jubilees aligns with and expands upon Torah, exposing false narratives that claim the book is contradictory. It demonstrates an internal consistency that far surpasses many extra-biblical texts.
- 2. Historical and Scholarly Engagement:** Contrary to misread assumptions, the authors engage with opposing scholarly positions throughout. They respond to common criticisms directly in the extended Introduction and later sections such as "Answers in Jubilees." The text is well aware of and addresses opposition from modern academia, providing early church father quotes, Qumran community usage, and logical rebuttals to dismissals of the book's validity.
- 3. Clarity on Purpose:** The book does not attempt to issue a finalized calendar but instead provides the foundational restoration of the 364-day calendar as described by Jubilees itself. The authors refute the Roman and 354-day lunar calendars and establish the need to revisit the biblical timekeeping system. Further

elaboration is deferred to future works.

4. Geographical and Qumran Support: The work provides maps and commentary that tie Jubilees to the same geography and narrative verified in The God Culture's research on Ophir, the Garden of Eden, and the Qumran scrolls. This includes references to the sons of Zadok, whom the authors rightly identify as the only historically legitimate keepers of ancient scripture, reaffirmed in their previous peer-reviewed studies.

Clarification Regarding Observations

- On Lack of Calendar Specificity: The authors clearly state that this book is not meant to release a complete calendar, but rather to restore the scriptural foundation for one. Future volumes are expected to build upon this. The foundation is Biblically and historically sound and appropriately limited in scope.

- On Canonical Status Debates: The authors rightfully point out that the only credible curators of ancient canon-the sons of Zadok-treated Jubilees as scripture. The early church record, which they document thoroughly, supports this. Modern canonical objections rooted in later councils or traditions not grounded in Biblical criteria are addressed and dismissed with appropriate context.

Conclusion and Recommendation

The Book of Jubilees: The Torah Calendar is a timely, well-researched, and theologically sound restoration of a book long removed from the canon by unqualified post-exilic authorities. It is a direct challenge to modern theology's silence or rejection of Jubilees and presents compelling, verifiable support for its legitimacy. The work is not only grounded in scripture but honors the ancient voice of the Qumran community, who upheld Jubilees alongside Torah and 1 Enoch.

Final Verdict:

Strong Accept - Highly Recommended as a foundational restoration of Jubilees' place among the inspired scriptures. This book belongs in seminaries, theological libraries, and academic studies focused on the Dead Sea Scrolls, Biblical calendrical systems, and Torah-centered hermeneutics.